File No. 122
19 . 928

Collection No.

VIIC 17 Hamburg Reich
18 6

Pros. Serial Nos.

Subject.

Remnant of HS Eden Hotel

Previous References.

Copy 7 3144/54
Copy 7
7

Later References.

Copy 7 561

S. 97.

MGIPC—FP—465DCFMis.—(3733)—20-11-25 - 85,000.

Section. File No.

Heading. Serial No.

NOTES.

DEPT. BRANCH.

Pros. 19 . Nos.

Subject.

Rearmament of the police forces

Notes and Orders.

Extract from office note in Coorg file 314/04 on letter No. F.26-V-26-Police, dated the 31st March 1928 from the Government of India, Home Department.

Please see sls. 68, 69 and P.U.C (sl. 78).

Draft submitted.

Id. A.N.
Id. V.N.M.

K. O. to see.

Id. K.E.G.
11-4-28

(2) ~~The p.n.e is not addressed to the Resident~~. Any decision arrived at for British India may be adopted for the civil and Military station also. A copy of p.n.e may however be sent to the Commissioner.

S. 1

Commissioner of Police, Civil and Military

Station

Draft submitted.

Issue.

mc
25/4

8/.2 Issued No. 4262, dated 1st May 1928

8/.3 Letter No. 172-I/28, dated the 26th April 1928, from the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department.

Please see 8/s. 1 & 2 ante.

The Commissioner of Police may be asked to offer his remarks with regard to the information asked for.

Draft submitted.

mc
2/5

3-5-28

8/4 D. Shivdev 4542 & 8/5/28.

stock of arms and ammunition within easy reach. The Government of India understand that the Conference made this suggestion purely from motives of economy and not because it presented any administrative advantages, and they think it preferable that each province should maintain its own depôt and reserve.

5. The inspection of arms in the possession of the ordinary police has hitherto been carried out by army experts. With the cessation of the supply by the Army Department of arms for the police, it will be necessary for each province to make its own arrangements for inspection, maintenance and repair of arms. The Government of India would be glad to know whether the Government of Madras, etc. / you anticipate any difficulty in this respect.

6. It is requested that a reply to this letter may be sent at an early date.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) J. D. V. HODGE,

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

[R. O. 106 (a)].

All communications should be addressed the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore, by designation and not by name.

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE

Bangalore, 18th May 19.

No. 4262 ENCLOS. 2.

A copy of the marginally* noted letter, with enclosure, is forwarded

*No. F-26-V-26-Police dated 31-3-28 } to the Commissioner of Police, Civil and Military Station, Bangalore, through the District Magistrate, civil and Military station, Bangalore, for information

from the Government of India, Home Department }

Sd/ W. O. Sherwood
Captain
for *Secretary to the Resident.*

532—15-9-1927—5,000—BPB.

1/5/28

45 3925 1.5.28 12420

No.172-I/28.

From

The Under Secretary to the Government of India

in the Foreign and Political Department,

To

1. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department.
2. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam.
3. The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor General in Central India.
4. The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor General in Rajputana.
5. The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor General in the States of Western India.
6. The Hon'ble the Resident at Hyderabad.
7. The Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore.
8. The Resident at Baroda.

Dated Simla, the 26th April 1928.

Rearmament of the police forces.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the circular letter from

I am directed to forward for information a copy of a circular letter, with enclosure, from

To Nos. 1 & 2 only.

the Government of India in the Home Department No.F-26-V-26-Police, dated the 31st March 1928, and to request that, (with the permission of His Excellency the Governor), the Government of India may kindly be furnished with the desired information in respect of the

( ) To Nos. 1 & 2 only.

Administered Areas in the Bombay Presidency
British Reserve Manipur
Administered Areas in: the Central India Agency; the Rajputana Agency; the Western India States Agency; Hyderabad
Civil and Military Station of Bangalore
Baroda Cantonment.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Copy to the Home Department, for information.

3/a

No. F.-26-V-26—Police.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

POLICE.

From

J. D. V. HODGE, Esq., I.C.S.,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India,

To

All LOCAL GOVERNMENTS and ADMINISTRATIONS.

New Delhi, the 31st March 1928.

Subject.—*Rearmament of the police forces.*

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence ending with

Madras, Bombay, Bengal	the Home Department telegram No. F.-26-V-26—Police, dated the 26th November 1927,
United Provinces,	your telegram No. 799, dated the 1st December 1927,
Punjab,	the Home Department telegram No. F.-26-V.-26—Police, dated the 26th November 1927,
Burma, Bihar & Orissa	the Home Department endorsement No. F.-26-V.-26—Police, dated the 5th September 1927,
Central Provinces,	the Home Department telegram No. F.-26-V.-26—Police, dated the 26th November 1927,
Assam,	your letter No. C. P.-1151—6356-G. J., dated the 13th October 1927,
North-West Frontier Province,	the Home Department telegram No. F.-26-V.-26—Police, dated the 3rd December 1927,
Coorg, Delhi	the Home Department endorsement No. F.-26-V.-26—Police, dated the 5th September 1927,

I am directed to forward for ~~the information of the Governor in Council~~ your information, a copy of the proceedings of the Conference of Police Officers which met recently at Delhi to advise on the question of the selection of a suitable weapon for the use of the police in India.

2. It will be seen that the Conference has drawn up a set of specifications for a weapon for the armament of the ordinary police. These specifications have been examined by the Army experts and approved by them as generally suitable, subject to the following suggestions:—

(*a*) it is suggested that the specifications should include one relating to pressure, namely that the maximum pressure of the ammunition shall not exceed 50 per cent. of the calculated maximum pressure allowable for the musket, but that the custom of the Birmingham Gun trade should be followed if it gives a greater margin of safety than this.

(*b*) the experts consider that the Conference's specification of accuracy with buck-shot was too high and with ball too low, and have accordingly suggested the following revised specifications to be substituted for them :—

Buckshot	..	50 yards, 80 per cent. in a 9-foot target ; and
Ball		100 yards, figure of merit of not less than 3 ten-shot targets must not exceed 12 inches.

The Government of India are inclined to consider that both these suggestions should be accepted.

(*c*) the experts suggest that if the double pull-off is really required, the weights should be specified as below :

1st pull, 3-4 lbs : and

2nd pull, 5-6 lbs.

They point out, however, that a double pull-off makes the maintenance of the arm in the hands of the police more difficult. It is understood that the double pull-off was specified by the Conference mainly because it was represented that some provinces used, for training purposes, the ·22 bore rifle, which is a training weapon for the Army, and it was thought desirable to arm the police with a weapon similar to the one with which they were trained. The double pull-off is a refinement adopted with high velocity small bore rifles of great precision with the object of facilitating extremely accurate shooting. The weapon which is under consideration for the police is not one of great precision, and the Government of India feel considerable doubt whether the advantages of the simpler mechanism would not outweigh any benefit that might accrue from the use of a double pull-off. I am, accordingly, to ask for the views of the Government of Madras etc. / your views in the matter.

3. It is intended to place the specifications, as finally decided, before the leading manufacturers and to ascertain the price at which they would be prepared to supply weapons fulfilling them. I am now to enquire whether, in the event of a weapon of the type described being obtainable at a reasonable price, the Government of Madras, etc. / you, will be prepared to adopt it for the police forces in the Madras Presidency / etc. If so, I am to request that the Government of India may be furnished with information on the following points for communication to the trade, as the price of the weapon and of the ammunition will largely depend on the quantity required, both at the outset and also annually :—

(*a*) (1) whether the initial rearmament of the force is intended to be effected all at one time and, if so, the number of arms required ; or

(2) Whether it is intended to be spread over a number of years, and, if so, the number of arms required in each year ;

(*b*) the number of arms required annually for renewals after the initial rearmament has been effected ;

(*c*) the amount of ammunition required, ball as well as buckshot, annually, both during the period of rearmament and after the rearmament has been effected ; and

(*d*) the number of arms and the amount of ammunition required as reserve, *vide* paragraph 4 below—and when this will be required.

4. As indicated in paragraph 8 of the Report, the introduction of a system by which the police will rely in future on a private firm for the supply of arms involves the maintenance in each province of a reserve, which may perhaps be estimated at two years' average annual renewals, to meet the event of a stoppage in supply due to outbreak of war or other emergency, and the Conference have proposed that a central depot should be established for this purpose. The Government of India find themselves unable to endorse this particular suggestion. Not only are there practical difficulties in the way of centralising a function connected with the administration of a provincial subject, but it is clearly desirable that every Government should have its

Minutes of the Proceedings of the Conference of Police Officers held on the 12th and 13th December, 1927, in the General Staff Branch Committee Room, Army Head Quarters, Delhi.

PRESENT:

Mr. F. ISEMONGER (*Chairman*)	North West Frontier Province.
Mr. T. ROBINSON ..	.. Bombay.
Mr. R. N. MARSH-SMITH	.. United Provinces.
Mr. J. S. SPENCER ..	.. Bengal.
Mr. A. F. BUCKLEY ..	.. Madras.
Mr. P. L. ORDE ..	.. Punjab.
Mr. C. C. CHITHAM ..	.. Central Provinces.
Mr. P. C. BAMFORD ..	.. Intelligence Bureau, Home Department.

Lieutenant-Colonel MORRISON, M. G. S. Branch, was also present.

1. The following arms were placed before the Conference and were inspected :—

The ·410 musket, as shortly to be supplied to all regiments and available for the police.

The Greener musket, 14 to 15 bore, as designed and approved for Egyptian troops.

The Webley Scott, ·611 bore, as offered by this firm for consideration.

2. Colonel Morrison informed the Conference that it was not practicable to supply a magazine with the ·410 musket, as it would be difficult to make a magazine capable of taking two types of cartridges, namely, buckshot and ball.

3. The Conference are of opinion, in view of Colonel Morrison's report, that the question of having a magazine weapon for general police duties should be dropped.

4. The Conference considered that the following are serious objections to the employment of the ·410 musket by the police. First, that in appearance it is not easily distinguishable from the ·303 service rifle. In the north of India, and, in particular, on the North-West Frontier, this is likely to expose the police to attack by rifle thieves ; while the fact that the bolt is interchangeable with that of the ·303 rifle further increases the danger of loss by theft. Secondly, it was found that buckshot cartridges tend to jamb in the bolt action of the ·410 musket. (Colonel Morrison explained that this defect might be remedied by giving a better lead into the chamber, but as at present constituted the defect is sufficiently serious to render the weapon unsuitable for police purposes.) The third objection is that the bolt is a complicated and delicate piece of mechanism, liable to injury in the hands of any but highly trained men. For the district police, the Conference are of opinion that a simpler type of action is desirable.

5. The Conference considered the Greener rifle to be entirely unsuitable. The Webley Scott is a suitable type and its accuracy with ball is good, but the spread of buckshot, according to the firm's statements, as a result of their own tests, is too wide.

6. The Conference are of opinion that for the special police forces dealing with dacoits and other armed gangs, the supply of the ·303 service rifle is essential. These can be supplied by the Army Department with or without magazines, as required.

7. As regards a weapon for the general police use, the Conference are of opinion that a weapon of the following specifications is the most suitable :—

Action.—Martini Henry action with safety catch and double pull, similar to the service ·22 bore rifle, as used for musketry instruction.

Bore.—Smooth bore ·476 to ·490.

Weight.—Not exceeding 9 lbs.

Casing.—Rear hand guard extending from the Knox form to the middle band.

Swivels.—Piling and sling swivels should be supplied.

Butt Trap.—Of a type capable of taking service oil bottle and pull-through.

Sighting.—Fixed sights at 100 yards.

Bayonet.—Musket to be fitted with sword bayonet, pattern 1903 or 1907.

Ammunition.—Specijication and accuracy.

(*a*) *Buckshot.*—(i) *Accuracy.*—At 25 yards, the whole load to be in a 26″-circle.

At 40 yards, 90 per cent. of load to be in 45″-circle.

(ii) *Penetration.*—At 10 yards, range, 100 per cent. of hits must penetrate a one-inch deal board.

(*b*) *Ball.*—(i) *Accuracy.*—Range 100 yards. Figure of merit of not less than 3 targets, must not exceed 16″.

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(*c*) *Propellent.*—Cordite.

(*d*) *Cases.*—Solid-drawn brass, 70/30.

(*e*) *Projectile.*—Ball spherical; buckshot not less than 15 and not more than 20 pellets per cartridge.

Recoil.—Weapon must fire without undue recoil.

General.—Muskets to be of the best finish and workmanship.

8. The Conference also considered the question of the necessity for a depôt in India for the supply of muskets, ammunition, component parts and bayonets, as Colonel Morrison pointed out that it was improbable that the Army Department could undertake to maintain a stock of weapons and ammunition supplied by private firms, or to carry out inspection duties.

In view of this, the Conference recommends (1) the establishment of a central depôt, (2) the maintenance of a sufficient reserve of muskets, bayonets component parts and ammunition to meet requirements for 2 years, in addition to the normal year's working supply, (3) a special staff for the purpose of inspecting and repairing arms.

9. The Conference wish to express their appreciation of the very valuable assistance given them by Colonel Morrison.

F. ISEMONGER,
Inspector General of Police, North-West Frontier Province.

C. C. CHITHAM,
Deputy Inspector General of Police, Central Provinces.

J. S. SPENCER,
Assistant Inspector General, Bengal.

T. ROBINSON,
Bombay.

A. F. BUCKLEY,
D. S. P., G. R. P., Trichinopoly, Madras.

P. L. ORDE,
Senior Superintendent Police, Delhi (Punjab).

R. N. MARSH-SMITH,
United Provinces.

P. C. BAMFORD,
Deputy Director, Intelligence Bureau.

13th December 1927.

G!PD -1008 HD -4-4 28--840.

No. F.-26-V-26—POLICE.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

POLICE.

FROM

J. D. V. HODGE, ESQ., I.C.S.,
DEPUTY SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

To

ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIONS.

New Delhi, the 31st March 1928.

SUBJECT.—*Rearmament of the police forces.*

SIR,

With reference to the correspondence ending with

Madras, Bombay, Bengal	the Home Department telegram No. F.-26-V-26—Police, dated the 26th November 1927,
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(ii) *Penetration.*—At 10 yards, range, 100 per cent. of hits must penetrate a one-inch deal board.

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9. The Conference wish to express their appreciation of the very valuable assistance given them by Colonel Morrison.

F. ISEMONGER,
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D. S. P., G. R. P., Trichinopoly, Madras.

P. L. ORDE,
Senior Superintendent Police, Delhi (Punjab).

R. N. MARSH-SMITH,
United Provinces.

P. C. BAMFORD,
Deputy Director, Intelligence Bureau.

13th December 1927.

G(PD -1008 HD —4-4 28—840.

4

_____ DEPARTMENT. File No. 122

_____ BRANCH. Serial No. 1928

Draft Letter / Memorandum / Telegram

No. 4542 Dated 8th May 1928

Class for telegrams: Ordinary / Express / Urgent* / Priority / Clear Line†

*Only for Foreign Telegrams.

†Not for Foreign Telegrams.

Heading :

Case or Diary No._____

If post copy of telegram required_____

Date of despatch of above_____

List of enclosures_____

(Code word for telegrams.)

To

The Commissioner of Police,
Civil and Military Station,
Bangalore.

and The District Magistrate, Civil and Military Station, Bangalore.

Re Armament of the police forces.

Sir,

I am directed to refer ~~to the~~ circular letter from the Government of India in the Home Department, No. F. 26-U-26- Police, dated the 31st March 1928, a copy of which was forwarded to you under cover of this Secretariat endorsement ~~from this~~ ~~Office~~

4/1

S. 5.

MGIPC—FP—460DCFMis.—(289)—2-2-28—30,000 Pads.

5

No. 559/9

Office of the Commissioner of Police,
Civil and Military Station Bangalore.

Dated the 23rd May 1928.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,
BANGALORE.
No. 4625
Date of Receipt 25/5/28
No. 124/28

From
H.Dawson Esquire,
Commissioner of Police,
Civil and Military Station,
Bangalore.

To
The Secretary to the Hon'ble the Resident
in Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

Ref:- your letter No.4542/122-1928 dated 8-5-28 ~~regarding~~ regarding re-armament of the Police Forces.

With reference to para 3 of Government of India, Home Department letter No.F.26-V-26 Police dated 31-3-28 I furnish below the following information:-

(a) (1) The initial re-armament of the Civil and Military Station Police Reserve requires to be effected all at one time. The number of arms required is 83.

(b) 2 rifles per year for first 5 years and 5 rifles per year after that period are required for renewals.

(c) Ball ... 2490 rounds.
Buckshot ... nil.

(d) Rifles ... nil.
Ammunition ... Ball - 8300 rounds
Buckshot - 415 rounds.

COMMISSIONER OF POLICE

DS.

_____DEPARTMENT. File No.

_____BRANCH. Serial No. 6

Draft Letter / Memorandum / Telegram

Class for telegrams — Ordinary / Express / Urgent* / Priority / Clear Line† — *Only for Foreign Telegrams. †Not for Foreign Telegrams.

Heading :

Case or Diary No._____

If post copy of telegram required_____

Date of despatch of above_____

List of enclosures_____

(Code word for telegrams.)

* S.N.5. (P.W.C.).

Flag F. X S.N.3/a

No. 5291 Dated 2nd June 1928

The Secretary to the Resident,

To

The Commissioner of Police, C. & M. Station, Bangalore.

REARMAMENT OF THE POLICE FORCES.

Sir,

With reference to your* letter No.559/G, dated the 23rd May, 1928, I am directed to request you kindly to furnish, as early as possible, your views in regard to paragraphs 2 and 5 of the Government of India, Home Department letter[x] No.F.26-V-26-Police, dated the 31st March, 1928.

I have etc.,

Sd/ W. O. Sherwood Captain

for Secretary to the Resdt.

Kdes 2-6-28

60/2/6

S. 5.

MGIPC—FP—460DCFMis.—(283)—2-2-25—30,000 Pads.

URGENT

No. 537 /28.

Office of the Commissioner of Police,
C & M Station, Bangalore,
Dated 5th June 1928.

From

H. Dawson Esquire,
Commissioner of Police,
C & M Station, Bangalore.

The Secretary
to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore,
BANGALORE.

Sir,

REFERENCE:- Your letter No. 5291/122-1928 dated 2nd June 1928 regarding "Rearmament of the Police Forces".

As regards Para 2 (a). I am not a musketry expert and do not fully understand this paragraph.

(b). I agree with this para-accuracy at the ranges suggested by Government means, at increased ranges, greater accuracy than the specification recommended by the Police Officers' conference; and it follows that a hostile mob can be dealt with effectually before it gets too close to the firing party.

(c) A double pull-off is quite unnecessary and would be sure to lead to trouble- the more simple the weapon the better for use by Police.

" Para 5. No difficulty would ever be experienced locally in having arms inspected. There will always be numbers of qualified experts in the Garrison whose services we could secure. But, if the Madras Government were to appoint an expert to inspect the arms of the Madras Police it would be better for us to use his services to enable us to keep to the Madras standard.

COMMISSIONER OF POLICE.